(c) whether these Power Projects will be taken up as a joint venture or by private participation from that country alone; and

(d) whether modalities for such participation have been decided upon and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) to (d) The proposal of setting up a Joint Working Group between India and Australia in the power sector is presently under consideration. This Working Group would identify areas and modalities of cooperation.

**Aid sought from World Bank**

2775. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has sought US dollars 30 million from the World Bank for the Global Environmental Facility, recently;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what is the reaction of World Bank to this request from his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) to (c) Information being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

**देश में चैकोस्लोवाकिया से सहायता प्र. . विद्युत परियोजनाओं की संख्या**

2776. श्री अजीत जोगी:
श्री बेकले "उत्साही":

क्या विद्युत और गैर-पारम्परिक ऊर्जा स्रोत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि देश में चैकोस्लोवाकिया की सहायता से स्थापित की गई विद्युत परियोजनाओं की राज्यवार संख्या कितनी है?

विद्युत और गैर पारम्परिक ऊर्जा स्रोत मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कल्पनाथ राय): चैकोस्लोवाकिया की सहायता से भारत में कोई विद्युत परियोजना स्थापित नहीं की गई है।

**Doubts About Commercial Viability of NPTC**

2777. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the date of creation of the National Power Transmission Corporation;

(b) whether it is a fact that International Financial Institutions the World Bank and the Japanese lenders including the International Bank of Japan, the Exim Bank and the OECF have separately raised questions about the commercial viability of the above Corporation;

(c) if so, what is his reaction thereto; and

(d) what is its impact on the proposed transfer of entire transmission and distribution work to the country to this new Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) National Power Transmission Corporation has been incorporated on 23.10.89 under the Companies Act.

(b) to (d) The World Bank, Japanese lenders including International Bank of Japan, the Exim Bank and Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) have been approached for their concurrence for the transfer of the transmission and associated works of NTPC. NHPC and NEEPCO to National Power Transmission Corporation